

# DOUGLAS and STURGES

## Ingredients for ART

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### ALTRAFORM INSTRUCTIONS

#### ABOUT THE MATERIAL

Altraform is available in precut sheets approximately 43" by 55". Consisting of a layer of plastic bonded between two layers of scrim, Altraform can be easily formed with the application of mild heat.. This unique material is softened in water heated to 160° F (71° C) prior to application. When use of water is impractical due to size of the working area, an industrial heat gun may be used to soften the material. Altraform softens in 30 seconds and provides 2-4 minutes in working time.

PREPARATION: Immerse the material. Insert Altraform material vertically into 160° F (71° C) water. Keep the material under water until air bubbles cease to rise. Altraform will soften in 30 seconds. Altraform should not be kept in the water longer than 30 minutes. Altraform can be heated many times before it will lose its properties.

APPLICATION: It is important to minimize the deforming of the material during application.

MOLD: Once the material has been removed from the water, you have approximately 3 minutes of working time before it is set to the point where it cannot be molded. During that time, the material may be folded, tucked, stretched or notched to achieve maximum contouring. Mold as you use each piece. Work steadily rather than rapidly. If Altraform cools too fast, or if you wish to remold a specific area, apply heat to the area with a 1000-watt portable hair dryer or an industrial heat gun until the material is pliable.

SETTING: Setting time for Altraform depends upon the ambient temperature and the temperature of the material that the Altraform is being molded from as well as the uniformity of heat exposure. Rigidity will be achieved after 10 minutes. Maximum strength is attained in 30 minutes.

POST-APPLICATION Remolding To remold any section of the Altraorm material, soften the area by carefully applying heat with a 1000-watt portable hair dryer or an industrial heat gun. As soon as the material has softened, it is ready for remolding.

REPAIR Soften the area to be repaired as described for remolding, then apply a new piece of heated Altraorm to the softened area and rub gently around the edged to maximize bonding. Commercial hot glues may also be used to repair Altraform and may be used to smooth rough spots.

RE-USE Altraform may be re-used 2-3 times without compromising the thermoplastic characteristics. If Altraform has been heated but not used, it can be cooled while flat and used again.

COMBINED WITH OTHER MATERIALS If desired. Altraform will accept a variety of coatings and paints. Small pieces should be used for experimentation to insure that the projects desired outcome is achieved. It is possible to incorporate other types of thermoplastics such as Varaform and Protoplast with Altraform to achieve varying effects. It is always best to test using small pieces before starting a large project.

PRECAUTIONS Exposure of finished Altraform parts to high temperatures should be avoided, since heat in excess of 125° F may soften the material even after a shape has been finished. Avoid car trunks, and enclosed vehicles where inside temperature could exceed 125F. Altraform may be cleaned by using a damp sponge.